THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2421. *Tuesday, Sept.* 15, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

English Opera House.

THE new Drama called *The Recruit*, was repeated here last night; but though most ably sustained by all the performers employed in it, we think our prophesy, that it would prove short lived, is likely to be fulfilled. It is, we understand, the maiden effort of a *recruit* in the dramatic world, a Mr. Hallet, a Banker. The second piece was *The Middle Temple*, in which Wrench as *Briefless* was quite at home, and was as impudent, and told a lie with as good a face as any Barrister of them all. Keeley was very entertaining as *Brutus Hairbrain*; his pirouettes and entrechats, were much applauded. Mrs. Keeley's *Penelope*, was highly natural and effective; and Mr. Bennett's *Mr. Prettyman*, was a clever piece of acting. There was great laughter and applause during the performance of this piece. *The Bottle Imp!* with its *diableries* concluded, being the last night but one of its being acted this season. Mr. Wood, as *Albert*, sang sweetly, and was, as usual, encored in Mr. Rodwell's ballad, 'They mourn me dead in my father's hall.'

Haymarket Theatre.

LAST night, at this Theatre, after the Melo-drama of *The Goldsmith*, in which Cooper acted the villain *Cardillac* with appropriate energy, the Comedy of *Rule a Wife and Have a Wife* was performed for the second time this season, and its principal characters supported with considerable ability. Mr. Cooper's performance of *Leon* was evidently improved; he asserted his rights, as a husband, with manly eloquence and dignity, without the boisterous manner which we noticed in his former performance of the character; and his assumed folly was very humorous, and excited great laughter and applause. Mr. Vining was very amusing in the *Copper Captain*;—his description of his miserable lodging was excellently delivered; and his scene with *Estifania*, in the fourth act, where he accuses her of deceiving him, was cleverly acted—but here Mrs. Glover's acting was inimitable; she returned his abuse with admirable spirit, and enumerated the contents of the jewel casket with a comic effect, equal, if not superior, to any thing we have witnessed for a long time:—the applause was loud and incessant during the whole of this scene. She, also, cajoled *Cacafogo* with consummate skill; and, indeed, throughout the whole of the part, there was not one point which this clever actress did not make tell, and it was, unquestionably, the most perfect performance of the evening.

Mrs. Faucit deserves praise for her performance of *Margarita*; her acting when *Leon* shewed himself in his true colours, was very good; her disappointment and rage at being cheated into choosing one determined to rule her, was depicted with judgment and force, and she looked the character to the life. J. Reeve, and Webster, as the old hag, and her daughter, exhibited in their short scene some very humorous acting, and afforded great amusement. Mr. Brindal and Mr Williams were respectable as the *Duke* and *Cacafogo*; and the Comedy altogether appeared to give unmixed delight to a numerous audience. The new Farce of *William Thompson* followed, and, as on the previous nights of its performance, was received with continued laughter and applause.

A female vocalist of rising celebrity, at the English Opera-house, it is reported, finds no delight equal to that of listening to the pensive breathings of a *Fife!*

The most ample pecuniary resources were tendered to Mr. Elliston to enable him to assume the government of Covent Garden Theatre, long before the present plan of a subscription was adopted. He, however, declined the offer on the ground of his undertaking at the Surrey being less liable to failure, and quite sufficient, considering his doubtful state of health, for the employment of his energies.

Mr. Howard Payne is, we hear, the author of the new Comedy, announced for representation at the Haymarket Theatre, on Friday night.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr Editor, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines, and play a game of Chess—delightful place——Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable World, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two new views, at the Diorama Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's wil satisfy me.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of Sculpture, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—fully expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square—but I intrude—beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY.

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Theatre Royal Hay-Market.

This Evening, a Melo-drama, called

The Two Friends.

Ambrose, Mr W. FARREN,
Valentine.....(6th time)..... Mr WEBSTER,
Herbert, Mr COOPER.
Elinor..... Miss F. H. KELLY,
Rose, Mrs HUMBY.

After which, the Comedy of The

Clandestine Marriage.

Lord Ogleby, Mr W. FARREN,
Lovewell, Mr COOPER, Sterling, Mr WILLIAMS,
Sir John Melville, Mr J. F. WILLIAMSON,
Brush, Mr VINING, Serj. Flower, Mr W. JOHNSON,
Canton, Mr ANDREWS, Truman, Mr COOKE,
Traverse, Mr COVENEY, Servant, Mr COATES.
Mrs Heidelberg, Mrs GLOVER,
Miss Sterling..... Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Fanny, Miss F. H. KELLY,
Betty, Mrs TAYLEURE, Trusty, Mrs W. JOHNSON
Chambermaid, Miss BARNETT.

After which, (4th time) a new Farce, called

William Thompson;

Or, Which is He?

William Thompson the First.....Mr VINING,
William Thompson the Second, Mr J. REEVE,
Doctor Soothem.....Mr WILLIAMS, Bailiff.....Mr C. MORRIS,
Waiter, Mr COOKE, Thomas, Mr COATES.
Miss Dormer, Mrs ASHTON, Mary, Miss BARNETT,
Julia, Miss F. H. KELLY.

To-morrow, A Bold Stroke for a Wife, William Thompson, &c.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Evening, (10th time) a new Grand Romantic Opera, in three acts, (with an Introductory Scene) entitled

DER VAMPYR.

Freely translated from the German of
WILHELM AUGUSTUS WOHLBRUCK,
And Adapted to the Music of **HEINRICH MARSCHNER.**

The whole of the Music arranged and produced under the immediate superintendance of Mr Hawes, (who will preside at the Piano.)

Characters in the Introduction.

Eblis.....(the Prince of Evil) ..... Mr O. SMITH,
The Vampire, Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Gouls, Goblins, &c. by the Choristers and Corps de Ballet.
Alexis Zeriny, (a Hungarian Officer) Mr SAPIO,
Yanitza, (a Greek Chieftain) Mr R. JONES, Marco, Mr RANSFORD
Ianthe, (Daughter of Yanitza) Miss CAWSE.

☞ *A Month is presumed to elapse between the Introduction & the First Act.*

Characters in the Opera.

Baron Kassova, Mr THORNE, Martin Brunn, Mr MINTON,
Count Mavrocordo, Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Alexis Zeriny..... Mr SAPIO,
Franz Boro, Mr G. PENSON, Stephen Sarko, Mr J. RUSSELL,
Wenzel, (the Baron's Heiduk) Mr J. BLAND,
Michael Zips, Mr SALTER, Johan Bosky, Mr FULLER,
Peasantry of the Bannat, Transylvanians, Wallachians, Hungarians, &c.
Henrika, (Baron Kassova's Daughter) Miss BETTS,
Suzi Boro.....Mrs C. JONES, Liska.....Miss H. CAWSE.

After which, (7th time) a new Interlude, called

SOLD FOR A SONG.

The Music by A. LEE.

Count Cremona, Mr J. RUSSELL, Dense, Mr SALTER,
Alfred, Mr WOOD,
Adelle, Miss CAWSE, Eliza, Miss H. CAWSE.

To conclude with, the new Romantic Drama, called

The Sister of Charity

With the Overture to Idomeneo.

Colonel Saxe, } in the Austrian Army { Mr BAKER,
Captain Weimar, } { Mr J. VINING,
Paulo, (a Peasant) Mr KEELEY,
Andrea, } Smugglers { Mr O. SMITH,
Joseph, } { Mr PERKINS,
Jacomo, } { Mr RANSFORD,
Nannetta, Miss H. CAWSE,
St. Ursula, (the Sister of Charity) Miss KELLY.